

Message Text

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42

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O 151245Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4045

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 LUSAKA 2439/1

FOR IOP/M

FOR IBS/NCA COVERAGE

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SUBJ: MEDIA REACTION, SEPT. 15, 1976

LUSAKA, SEPTEMBER 15 -- AS SECSTATE VISIT DRAWS NEAR A VARIETY OF ARTICLES IN ZAMBIA PRESS DEAL WITH ISSUES UNDERSCORING THE TRIP.

TIMES OF ZAMBIA AND THE DAILY MAIL OF SEPT 15 BOTH CARRIED STORIES ON THE TANZANIA STATEMENT ISSUED IN DAR ES SALAAM PRIOR TO THE SECSTATE ARRIVAL. DAILY MAIL TREATED SUBJECT WITH BRIEF FRONT PAGE REATERS DISPATCH WITH DAR DATELINE UMDER HEADING:

"U.S. URGED TO BACK FIGHTERS." TIMES OF ZAMBIA PIECE IS MUCH LONGER -- A THREE COLUMN, FRONT PAGE SPREAD HEADLINE: "WHICH WAY KISSINGER, ASKS DAR?". STORY, NOT ATTRIBUTED TO ANY SOURCE, STATES: "THE TANZANIAN GOVERNMENT TOLD THE UNITED STATES TO CHOOSE BETWEEN SUPPORTING FREEDOM FIGHTERS IN ZIMBABWE AND NAMIBIA AND SIDING WITH MINORITY REGIMES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. THE STATEMENT CHALLENGED DR. KISSINGER TO DECLARE EXPLICITLY THAT "IF A PEACEFUL TRANSFER OF POWER IS IMPOSSIBLE BECAUSE OF THE UNCLASSIFIED

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INTRANSIGENCE OF THE RACISTS, THEN AMERICA WILL BE ON THE SIDE

OF THOSE FIGHTING FOR FREEDOM. SUCH A STATEMENT WOULD DISHEARTEN VORSTER AND SMITH AND MAKE A PEACEFUL SOLUTION MORE LIKELY AND NOT INVOLVE AMERICA IN JOINING THE ARMED STRUGGLE IF THIS HAS, NEVERTHELESS, TO CONTINUE". ON SAME SUBJECT, REUTERS STORY CARRIED IN THE DAILY MAIL STATES ONLY: "TANZANIA ... CALLED ON THE UNITED STATES YESTERDAY TO SUPPORT BLACK NATIONALIST GUERRILLAS IF PEACEFUL SOLUTIONS TO THE AREAS PROBLEMS BECOME IMPOSSIBLE."

ISSUES OF INDEPENDENCE AND MAJORITY RULE FOR RHODESIA AND NAMIBIA AS WELL AS OTHER SUBJECTS RELATING TO SOUTHERN AFRICA ARE TREATED IN AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW OF ZAMBIAN PRESIDENT KAUNDA BY LONDON OBSERVER LUSAKA STAFFER DAVID MARTIN. EDITED PORTIONS OF THE INTERVIEW WERE CARRIED IN TIMES OF ZAMBIA SEPT. 15.

REFERING TO KISSINGER-VORSTER ZURICH TALKS, MARTIN QUERIES KAUNDA RE HIS EXPECTATIONS IN RESOLVING SOUTHERN AFRICA CRISIS. KAUNDA REFERS TO FAILURE OF OAU MANIFESTO TO FIND PEACEFUL SOLUTION AND STATES: "NOW WE ARE FIGHTING. WHETHER OR NOT MR. VORSTER WILL SEE SENSE IN THIS FIELD BECAUSE MR. KISSINGER IS WHITE, I DON T KNOW. IF THEY DO FIND A PEACEFUL SOLUTION, WE LL BE GRATEFUL, PROVIDED IT IS ACCEPTABLE TO THE MAJORITY OF THE PEOPLE. IF THEY DO NOT FIND A SOLUTION, THEIR DISCUSSIONS WILL BE IMMATERIAL TO US. WE WILL CONTINUE FIGHTING."

ON QUESTION OF KISSINGER PRETORIA VISIT, KAUNDA SAYS, "WELL, IF BY THAT HE HOPES HE CAN FIND A SOLUTION TO THIS PROBLEM -- AND AS YOU KNOW, WHEN I SAY SOLUTION I MEAN A SOLUTION THAT REMOVES APARTHEID, A SOLUTION THAT BRINGS INDEPENDENCE TO NAMIBIA -- MTHEN OF COURSE I WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION TO IT."

MARTIN ALLUDES TO REPORT THAT SECSTATE WILLING TO TAKE "SOFT LINE" ON NAMIBIA IN RETURN FOR A RAPID MOVE TOWARDS INDEPENDENCE IN ZIMBABWE. KAUNDA STATES: "WE WOULD CONDEMN THAT RIGHTOUT. WE WOULD CONDEMN IT FOR VERY STRONGLY.THERE S NO QUESTION OF TRADING ONE COUNTRY FOR ANOTHER IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. WE VE MADE OUR STAND VERY CLEAR: NAMIBIA MUST BE FREE. ZIMBABWE MUST BE FREE, AND ON THE BASIS OF MAJORITY RULE, AND APARTHEID MUST BE CLEARED OFF THE FACE OF AFRICA."

MARTIN ASKS IF US POST-ANGOLAN INTEREST IN SOUTHERN AFRICA BASED
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ON DESIRE TO SEE GENUINE NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE OR TO INSURE THAT MEN AND REGIMES ACCEPTABLE TO WASHINGTON COME TO POWER IN NAMIBIA AND ZIMBABWE. KAUNDA STATES HIS BELIEF THAT "NO PUPPET REGIME CAN EXISR ON EARTH." HE GOES ON TO SAY: "AND IF, THEREFORE, THE SOUTH AFRICAN AND THE AMERICANS WOULD LIKE TO SUBSTITUTE GENUINE INDEPENDENCE BY PUTTING IN STOOGES, THEY ER SIMPLY WASTING THEIR TIME. INDEED THEIR OWN EXPRIENCE ELSEWHERE HAS SHOWN THAT, ESPECIALLY IN SOUTHEAST ASIA."

ON QUESTION OF SUPPLYING ARMS TO COUNTRIES OF SOUTHERN AFRICA,
KAUNDA REFERS TO BIG POWERS STATING: "IT S NOT FOR THEIR LOVE
OF US THAT THEY DO THAT, IT S FOR THEIR OWN INFLUENCE, AND,
THEREFORE, WE REALLY DEPLORE ANY SUCH DISTRIBUTION OF DANGEROUS
WEAPONS IN OUR AREA. AND THE TWO SUPERPOWERS WOULD DO WELL
TO THINK IN TERMS OF THE PEOPLE THEMSELVES CONTROLLING THEIR OWN
AFFAIRS AND NOT BEING INFLUENCED BY SUPERPOWERS THROUGH THE USE
OF THIS DISTRIBUTION OF WEAPONS."

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TO USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

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MARTIN ASKS: "SWAPO DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE TURNHALLE TALKS
WHICH HAVE BROUGHT A PROPOSED TIME SCALE FOR NAMIBIA S
INDEPENDENCE. YOU AND MANY OTHER LEADERS HAVE REJECTED THIS AS
UNACCEPTABLE. WHAT ARE THE ALTERNATIVES?". KAUNDA ANSWERS:
"ONLY ONE. AND THAT IS FIGHTING UNTIL THE ENEMY IS ROOTED. I WANT
YOU TO KNOW THAT I HAVE NO ROMANTIC VIEWS ABOUT AN ARMED STRUGGLE..
NONE AT ALL. BUT THEN, WHEN IT COMES TO CHOOSING BETWEEN FREEDOM OF
ANY GIVEN PEOPLE AND SLAVERY, WE CHOOSE FREEDOM EVEN IF THAT
CHOICE MEANS SACRIFICING THE BEST THAT ZAMBIA HAS -- LIFE
ITSELF.

ON QUESTION OF AN ACCEPTABLE TIME SCALE FOR ZIMBABWE
INDEPENDENCE, KAUNDA NOTES: "WELL, REALLY, AS A MATTER OF PRINCIPLE,
NOW, TOMORROW. I DON T THINK ANY PEOPLE ON EARTH TODAY COULD BE
SAID TO BE UNREADY TO RULE THEMSELVES. OBVIOUSLY THERE WILL BE
PROBLEMS IN THE CASE OF ZIMBABWE BECAUSE OF THE MANY
CONFLICTING INTERESTS, OF THE INVOLVEMENT OF THE SOVIET UNION ON ONE
HAND, SUPPORTING FORMER ZAPU, AND CHINA SUPPORTING FORMER ZANU.
AND THEN, OF COURSE, YOU HAVE THE CONFLICT OF ETHNIC GROUPINGS.

ALL THESE COMPLICATE THE SITUATION, BUT POSTPONING IT BECAUSE OF THESE REASONS IS NO REAL ANSWER....."

MARTIN ALLUDES TO SMITH OBSTINACIOUSNESS AS STUMBLING BLOCK TO PEACEFUL SOLUTION FOR ZIMBABWE AND ASKS HOW MUCH DIVISIONS AMONG NATIONALISTS HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO DIFFICULTIES. KAUNDA DISAVOWS TRIBALISM AS VALID EXCUSE FOR AVOIDING INDEPENDENCE, STATING, "TO SAY DON'T REMOVE SMITH BECAUSE OF TRIBALISM, THAT'S A STUPID ARGUMENT. YOU HAVE THESE DIVISIONS AMONGST ALL COUNTRIES." UNCLASSIFIED

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MARTIN ASKS IF 1969 LUSAKA MANIFESTO, RECOGNIZING SOUTH AFRICA AS INDEPENDENT, BARS KAUNDA FROM "MATERIALLY SUPPORTING FREEDOM FIGHTERS IN THE FUTURE IN SOUTH AFRICA THROUGH TRAINING CAMPS, ARMS, AND INFILTRATION." KAUNDA REMARKS: "WELL, CERTAINLY NO. IT'S A CLEAR NO. BECAUSE IF THE PEOPLE THEMSELVES ASK US TO HELP THEM, WE ARE UNDER AN OBLIGATION.....IT'S A PRINCIPLE INVOLVED, THERE'S NO QUESTION OF US GOING SHY ABOUT THIS. WHAT WE WILL NOT DO IS PLANT OUR OWN PEOPLE THERE, BUT IF THOSE PEOPLE COME OUT AND WANT TO BE TRAINED, IF THAT IS THE ONLY WAY THEY CAN DO IT, WE HAVE NO RIGHT TO DENY THEM THAT OPPORTUNITY."

MARTIN'S FINAL QUESTION ASKS KAUNDA HOW HE SEES THE FUTURE OF SOUTHERN AFRICA.

KAUNDA STATES: "VERY HEALTHY. VERY HEALTHY INDEED. IT'S PROMISING A GREAT DEAL. THIS IS A QUESTION OF THE DARKEST HOUR COMING BEFORE DAWN. IN TERMS OF SOUTH AFRICA ITSELF, I THINK LONG BEFORE THE TURN OF THE CENTURY SOUTH AFRICA SHOULD HAVE MAJORITY RULE. I GIVE IT 15 YEARS FROM NOW. BUT RHODESIA AND NAMIBIA, VERY SOON. IT MAY NOT BE NECESSARY TO WAGE WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA ITSELF. THE PRESSURE ON SOUTH AFRICA WILL BE SO MUCH WHEN NAMIBIA IS INDEPENDENT, WE HOPE FAIRLY SOON, ZIMBABWE BECOMES INDEPENDENT (SIC). WE WILL OBVIOUSLY CEASE TO BE A FRONTLINE COUNTRY BY THAT TIME. SWAZILAND IS THERE. LESOTHO IS RIGHT INSIDE, BOTSWANA (SIC).

SOUTH AFRICA WILL BE SURROUNDED BY INDEPENDENT AND NON-RACIAL COUNTRIES. THESE WILL BE VERY POWERFUL FORCES WHICH IT WILL NOT BE ABLE TO RESIST. SO IT MAY NOT BE NECESSARY TO(SIC) WHAT IS HAPPENING THERE IS ALREADY SUFFICIENT TO, YOU KNOW, TO SHAKE THE FOUNDATION OF APARTHEID.

AND I'M VERY HOPEFUL ABOUT THE FUTURE OF SOUTHERN AFRICA."

TIMES OF ZAMBIA ALSO CARRIES ARTICLE BY SALISBURY-BASED STAFFER JUSTIN NYOKA, HEADLINED: "RHODESIA'S BLACKS COUNT THE DAYS TO FREEDOM." NYOKA STATES: "THE WAR OF RHODESIA'S FREEDOM FIGHTERS

AGAINST WHITE MINORITY RULE HAS BEEN WON. AT LEAST, THIS IS THE
WIDELY HELD OPINION OF THE MAJORITY OF THE COUNTRY'S SIX AND
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HALF MILLION BLACKS. AND THOSE WHO CARE TO HAZARD A GUESS SAY IAN
SMITH'S REGIME WOULD BE LUCKY TO LAST THE NEXT 12 TO 28 MONTHS."

BOTH TIMES OF ZAMBIA AND DAILY MAIL CARRY FRONT PAGE STORIES
ABOUT KAUNDA REMARKS AT OFFICIAL OPENING OF SIX-DAY UNIP
LEARS SEMINAR. IN REMARKS, PRESIDENT WARNS AGAINST TAKING
PEACE FOR GRANTED, STATING: "I KNOW THAT BECAUSE WE HAVE
ENJOYED PEACE SINCE INDEPENDENCE, PEOPLE TAKE PEACE FOR GRANTED.
ELSEWHERE IN AFRICA AND THE WORLD, PEOPLE MADE THE SAME MISTAKES.
THEY WOKE UP TOO LATE -- ONLY TO FACE NEW GHASTLY REALITIES, ALL
POWER WAS TAKEN FROM THEM. DEATH AND DESTRUCTION FOLLOWED THEM
AT EVERY TURNING." KAUNDA GOES ON TO STATE: "TO TAKE PEACE FOR
GRANTED IS TO MOVE TOWARD SELF DESTRUCTION. I SAY TO YOU, NO.
WORK FOR PEACE AND THERE SHALL ALWAYS BE PEACE." ITEM USIS LUSAKA.
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